appoint an inquiry commission to go into the working to Coal India Limited specifically on the question of price rise;

(b) if so, what are the details of the representations received;

(c) whether Government have since examined various aspects of the representations; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) to (d) Some associations|individuals have urged the Central Government not to allow an increase in coal prices as it would have adverse effect on country's economy. A few of them have also suggested appointment of an Enquiry Commission to investigate into the working of Coal India Limited.

The price of coal produced by Coal India Ltd. was last increased in January, 1989 based on the June, 1988 indices. Since then the cost of production of coal has gone up due to increase in the cost of various inputs. The Coal India Ltd. has requested the Central Government to update the price strictly in accordance with the recommendations of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP).

At present there is no proposal to set up a Commission of Enquiry as suggested. However, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has undertaken a comprehensive study of the coal industry with a view to recommend suitable prices and other policy measures for this industry.

Break down of Gas Turbines of D.E.S.U.

997. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4 or 5 new gas turbines of D.E.S.U. have broken down leading to present power crisis in the capital and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what corrective steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Out of the six Gas Turbines of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, two units have been out of order for some time due to technical faults. DESU has already initiated action for the repairs and recommissioning of these units at the earliest. The outage of the two Gas Turbine Units has not led to any power crisis in the capital.

Oil and Gas exploration contracts

998. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the exploration contracts for oil and gas signed by Government during the current year; and

(b) what is the number of contracts likely to be signed in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Government has not signed any exploration contract for oil and gas during the current year.

Theft of power in Delhi

999. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY